



United States Department of Agriculture

Food Safety and
Inspection Service

1400 Independence
Avenue, SW.
Washington, D.C.
20250

Katherine Anthony
American Oversight
1030 15th Street, NW, Suite B255
Washington, DC 20005
foia@americanoversight.org

RE: FOIA-2018-DA-05566/
FSIS FOIA-2018-0441
Dr. Mindy Brashears

Dear Ms. Anthony:

This is the final response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, dated August 9, 2018, to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Departmental FOIA Service Center. You requested access to all communication between USDA political appointees and Dr. Mindy Brashears. The Departmental FOIA Service Center forwarded your request to the USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) on August 14, 2018, for a direct response.

The FSIS FOIA staff works with subject matter experts across the Agency to locate responsive documents. For this request, we conducted a records search in the Office of the Chief Information Officer. FSIS' search began on August 14, 2018. Please be advised that our staff did not locate any documents responsive to your request.

You may appeal this determination within 90 days from the date of this letter. Your appeal should include copies of your original request and this response, as well as a discussion of the reasons supporting your appeal. The envelope should be plainly marked to indicate that it contains a FOIA appeal. If you decide to appeal this determination, please send your appeal to:

Paul Kiecker
Acting Administrator
Department of Agriculture
Food Safety and Inspection Service
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Room 1170, South Building
Washington, D.C. 20250-3700

Please be advised that your FOIA request, including your identity and the information made available, is releasable to the public under any subsequent FOIA requests. However, FSIS does not release your personal privacy

information, such as home addresses, telephone numbers, or Social Security Numbers, all of which are protected from disclosure under FOIA Exemption 6.

If you have any questions about the way this request was handled, please contact Leslyn Maxwell at 202-720-8215 or via email at Leslyn.Maxwell@usda.gov. If you have general questions about FSIS' FOIA procedures or regulations, please contact our FOIA Public Liaison, Anne Sylvester, at 202-205-0144 or via email at Anne.Sylvester@usda.gov.

Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Thank you for your interest in FSIS programs and policies.

Sincerely,

ARIANNE PERKINS Digitally signed by ARIANNE PERKINS
Date: 2018.11.15 15:52:51 -05'00'

Arianne M. Perkins
Director, Freedom of Information Act Staff
Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Education
Food Safety and Inspection Service

Enclosure

Be Food Safe: **CLEAN:** Wash Hands and Surfaces Often **SEPARATE:** Separate Raw Meats from Other Foods
COOK: Cook To The Right Temperature **CHILL:** Refrigerate Food Promptly

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